### Roadmap for Ph.D. Atmospheric Sciences

**Department of Atmospheric Sciences**  
**College of Natural Science and Mathematics**  
**University of Alaska Fairbanks**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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| ATM 601 (Required by all)  
ATM 613 (Core)  
Thesis/Research Credits | ATM 615 (Core)  
ATM elective classes  
Thesis/Research Credits | Submit first peer review paper to integrate thesis. |

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<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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| ATM 645 (Core)  
ATM elective classes  
Thesis/Research Credits | ATM 646 (Core)  
ATM elective classes  
Thesis/Research Credits | Take written comprehensive exam after taking all five core courses. |

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<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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| ATM elective classes  
Thesis/Research Credits | ATM elective classes  
Thesis/Research Credits | Submit second and third peer review paper to integrate thesis. |

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<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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| ATM elective classes  
Thesis/Research Credits  
Last semester for thesis proposal | ATM elective classes  
Thesis/Research Credits | Defend PhD thesis |

1. **Five Core courses required** (See MS list). All core courses except for ATM601 are taught in a two-year cycle, i.e., depending on in which semester/year a student enters the program they either start with the core courses of year 1 or 2. The course program starts out with ATM 601 in the fall of the year they entered the program.

2. **Thesis**: write a coherent document about the research, present a public lecture and present an oral defense to graduate committee. Most of our PhD theses are ‘paper’ theses, where it is expected a total of 3 substantial peer-review journal article publications. We expect that two are accepted or already published and the third one submitted or close to being submitted.

**Comments**: If a student has gone through our MS program, we expect that they will typically take 3 years beyond the MS to complete the PhD, though this can vary.